

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

March 11, 2019

Good morning, Senator Winfield, Representative Stafstrom, and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony today on a few of the proposals before you. I would like to share some remarks on the following bills.

S.B. 60- AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESENTATION OF A CARRY PERMIT-DESPP supports this proposal. This bill would require individuals openly carrying to produce their permit if their firearm is visible and if requested by a law enforcement officer. We have seen circumstances over the last few years where individuals were alarmed when observing someone with a firearm in public. If enacted, this would help law enforcement to diffuse these potential unsettling situations before they escalate.

H.B. 7218-AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS IN THE HOME-DESPP supports this proposal. This bill would require the safe storage of all firearms, whether loaded or unloaded, in a home with a minor under eighteen years of age. H.B. 7223-AN ACT CONCERNING THE STORAGE OF A PISTOL OR REVOLVER IN A MOTOR VEHICLE-This bill would require safe storage of a pistol or revolver in a motor vehicle.

DESPP fully supports these two common sense proposals. The safe storage of firearms will provide safe, secure, and reasonable gun storage for gun owners. These proposals will also help to keep firearms out of the hands of our children and make our communities safer from gun violence.

H.B. 7219-AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS-DESPP supports this proposal. The bill would ban guns without serial numbers and regulate those which are sold in a form requiring the purchaser to finish assembly or that are homemade or 3-D printed. Ghost guns can be easily ordered and assembled by those intending to do harm in our communities or those excluded from firearms purchases. This is another common sense proposal which will help to reduce gun violence.